

lit.

BEFORE THE SHORELINES HEARINGS BOARD
STATE OF WASHINGTON

EVERGREEN ISLANDS,)	
)	
Appellant,)	SHB No. 91-39
)	
v.)	
)	ORDER OF DISMISSAL
CITY OF ANACORTES, LEEWARD)	
DEVELOPMENT, INC.; and DOMINION)	
EQUITY CORPORATION,)	
)	
Respondents.)	

This matter involves cross motions for summary judgment and dismissal. The appeal contests revisions approved by the City of Anacortes to the shoreline permit of Dominion Equity Corporation and Leeward Development, Inc. for development of a resort community known as Ship Harbor near the State ferry terminal in Anacortes. Having considered the following:

1. Respondent Leeward Development, Inc. and Dominion Equity Corporation's Motion to Dismiss or in the alternative to Expedite the Hearing together with the affidavit of Gary D. Huff with exhibits and Memorandum in Support.

2. Memorandum in Opposition to Respondent's Motion to Dismiss and Certified Statement of Andrew Salter.

3. Reply of Respondents Leeward Development, Inc. and Dominion Equity Corporation Re: Motion to Dismiss with the Declaration of Douglas R. Stephan with exhibits and the affidavit of Leslie A.

ORDER OF DISMISSAL
SHB NO. 91-39

(1)

1 Johnson, General Counsel of the Port of Anacortes with exhibits and
2 the Supplemental Affidavit of Gary D. Huff with exhibits.

3 4. Appellant's Motion for Summary Judgment and the Certified
4 Statement of Karen Lough with exhibits.

5 5. Response of Leeward Development, Inc. and Dominion Equity
6 Corporation to Evergreen Island's Motion for Summary Judgment with the
7 affidavit of William A. Isley with exhibits.

8 6. Appellant's Reply Memorandum in Support of Motion for Summary
9 Judgment with the Certified Statement of Dr. Richard Threet with
10 exhibits.

11 7. Affidavit of Ian Munce.

12 8. Appellant's Motion to Strike the Affidavit of Ian S. Munce
13 with exhibits.

14 9. Motion to Strike the Affidavit of Dr. Richard Threet with the
15 affidavit of Gary D. Huff with exhibits.

16 10. Second Supplemental Affidavit of Gary D. Huff with exhibits.

17 11. Evergreen Island's Reply Re: Motion to Strike the Affidavit
18 of Ian S. Munce.

19 12. Appellant Evergreen Island's Response to respondents' Motion
20 to Strike with exhibits.

21 Together with the records and files herein and, being fully
22 advised, we rule as follows:

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II. PRIOR PROCEEDINGS

Appellant Evergreen Islands, filed a timely appeal from the City's approval to this Board in 1984. The State Department of Ecology intervened. In direct succession, a settlement conference was convened among the parties, Judge Harrison presiding. Each party utilized its best efforts to resolve differences. Chiefly, those differences concerned protection of wetlands lying between the ferry terminal and the proposed development. There were also differences concerning the marina and sub-tidal crab habitat. Experts were engaged to investigate and report on both the wetlands and the sub-tidal crab habitat. After more than a year of wide-ranging negotiation, a comprehensive Settlement Agreement was reached by the parties. This was presented and entered by the Board on February 26, 1986. Evergreen Islands, et. al. v. City of Anacortes, et. al.,

1 SHB No. 84-37 (1986). A shoreline permit reflecting the agreement of
2 the parties was issued by the City on July 13, 1987.

3 The shoreline permit mitigated the proposal's effect on crab
4 habitat by 1) relocating portions of the marina, 2) reducing the
5 number of slips from 755 to 500 and 3) substituting a floating, rather
6 than rock, breakwater. The permit, also reflecting the Settlement
7 Agreement, provided that the wetlands were to be surveyed and staked
8 by the Department of Ecology. This wetland survey was completed in
9 1988. In the meanwhile, Leeward began negotiation to transfer its
10 interests in the project to respondent, Dominion Equity Corporation.

11 The wetland staking conducted by the Department of Ecology
12 established more extensive wetland boundaries than had been originally
13 contemplated. As the Settlement Agreement prohibits construction in
14 or over any wetlands, Dominion Equity found it necessary to modify the
15 site plan so as to avoid those wetland areas.

16 III. PRESENT PROCEEDINGS

17 On May 15, 1991, Dominion applied to the City for a revised site
18 plan approval. It is undisputed that a key feature of the proposal -
19 the hotel - had been determined by Ecology to be within the wetland
20 area. Consequently, the revision request sought to relocate the hotel
21 away from the wetland area. It also sought to relocate the
22 residential, parking and retail components of the proposal to
23 accommodate the relocated hotel. The revision application of Dominion
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1 was approved by the City on May 24, 1991. In an effort to achieve
2 agreement among parties to the original appeal, an amendment to the
3 Settlement Agreement was prepared on June 20, 1991. This was
4 subscribed by Dominion, the City, the Port of Anacortes and Department
5 of Ecology. Evergreen Islands did not subscribe. Instead, Evergreen
6 appealed the May 24, 1991, revision to this Board. Subsequently,
7 Dominion sought and the City approved 1) revocation of the May 24,
8 1991 revision and 2) substitution of a new revision dated July 22,
9 1991. The new revision, by agreement of the parties, is the item now
10 on appeal. It also relocated the hotel away from the wetland area and
11 relocates residential and parking components. It specifically defers
12 action with regard to relocation of the retail component. Space for
13 the retail component is available within the site.

14 IV. DECISION

15 The issues raised by these cross motions are as follows:

- 16 1. Whether the revision is within the "scope and intent" of the
17 original permit as described at WAC 173-14-064?
- 18 2. Whether there was adequate notice of the revision?
- 19 3. Whether the application for the revision contains the minimum
20 information?
- 21 4. Whether the revision contains improper and unfulfilled
22 contingencies?

1 5. Whether the revision complies with the State Environmental
2 Policy Act (SEPA), Chapter 43.21C RCW?

3 6. Whether the 1986 Settlement Agreement precludes this appeal?

4 7. Whether this matter must come to trial before this Board
5 within 45 days of the filing of the appeal?

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7 We now take these issues up in turn:

8 1. Scope and Intent. This case involves a 1987 shoreline
9 permit which Dominion now seeks to revise. Shoreline permit revisions
10 are governed by WAC 173-14-064 promulgated by the Department of
11 Ecology. At subsection (1) of that rule it states:

12 *If local government determines that the proposed*
13 *changes are within the scope and intent of the original*
14 *permit, local government may approve a revision.*

15 The term "within the scope and intent of the original permit" is
16 defined at subsection (2) of the rule. In subsection (7) it states
17 that as to revisions:

18 *Appeals shall be based only upon contentions of*
19 *noncompliance with the provisons of WAC 173-14-064(2)*
20 *[defining "within the scope and intent of the original*
21 *permit"].*

22 The sum total of this is that in a revision appeal the merits of the
23 revision are not before us. Goodman v. City of Spokane, SHB No. 214
24 (1976). If the revisions are beyond the scope and intent of the
25 original permit, a new permit must be sought. Goodman and WAC
26 173-14-064(3). But if the revisions are within the scope and intent

1 of the original permit, the revisions may be directly approved by
2 local government. WAC 173-14-064(1). In the latter instance, the
3 propriety of the revisions flows from the original permit.

4 "Within the scope and intent of the original permit" means all of
5 the following under WAC 173-14-064(2):

6
7 (a) No additional over water construction is
8 involved except that pier, dock, or float construction
9 may be increased by five hundred square feet or ten
10 percent from the provisions of the original permit,
11 whichever is less;

12 (b) Ground area coverage and height of each
13 structure may be increased a maximum of ten percent
14 from the provisions of the original permit;

15 (c) Additional separate structures may not exceed a
16 total of two hundred fifty square feet;

17 (d) The revised permit does not authorize
18 development to exceed height, lot coverage, setback, or
19 any other requirements of the applicable master program
20 except as authorized under the original permit;

21 (e) Additional landscaping is consistent with
22 conditions (if any) attached to the original permit and
23 with the applicable master program;

24 (f) The use authorized pursuant to the original
25 permit is not changed; and

26 (g) No substantial adverse environmental impact will
27 be caused by the project revision.

18 A. No issue has been raised in this case relating to over water
19 construction under WAC 173-14-064(2)(a).

20 B. With regard to ground area coverage under WAC
21 173-14-064(2)(b), Dominion has filed the affidavit of its architect
22 comparing the original and revised ground area coverage of hotel,
23 residential and parking structures. Each comparison reveals a
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1 reduction of ground area coverage.

2 1. Hotel. Evergreen has filed an affidavit asserting that
3 the hotel complex would increase under the revision from
4 62,000 to 75,000 square feet. Yet it is apparent from the
5 attached site plans that the 62,000 square foot figure is the
6 building "footprint" (Exhibit 4 to Threet affidavit and
7 Exhibit B to Isley affidavit). While the term "ground area
8 coverage" is not defined in WAC 173-14-064, we agree with
9 Dominion's position that it includes not only the building
10 footprint, but associated paving, decks, roof overhangs and
11 balconies. Thus, the material issue, ground area coverage, is
12 not placed in dispute by Evergreen's affidavit concerning the
13 hotel footprint.

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15 2. Parking. Evergreen's affidavit shows calculations which
16 conclude that ground area coverage of parking will be
17 increased. Dominion's affidavit shows that it will be
18 reduced. But there is more. Within the City's approved
19 revision, Condition 6 provides:

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21 The ground area coverage of the parking garage
22 shall be no greater than 95,400 square feet, which
23 represents an increase of 34,600 square feet from
24 the prior approved plan. However, as a result of
25 this increase, the surface parking shall be reduced
26 by approximately 100,000 square feet. Thus the net
27 ground area coverage for parking shall be
significantly reduced from the prior approved plan.

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2 Both parking garages and lots are structures within the
3 meaning of WAC 173-14-064(2). It is a requirement of the
4 revision approval itself that the ground area coverage of
5 parking shall be reduced. The conflict of the affidavits
6 speaks only to whether that condition of approval will be
7 met. That conflict is irrelevant to the issue of whether
8 the revision, as conditioned, is within the scope and
9 intent of the original shoreline permit.
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11 3. Chandlery. Similarly, Evergreen's affidavit shows an
12 increase in the chandlery building from 3,000 to 4,000
13 square feet. The City's revised site plan (attachment C to
14 the certified statement of Evergreen's counsel), however,
15 specifies 3,000 square feet. The affidavit speaks only to
16 whether that requirement will be met. As such it is
17 irrelevant to the issue of whether the revision is within
18 the scope and intent of the original shoreline permit.
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20 4. Residences. The same analysis applies here. Evergreen
21 cites the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) at
22 Addendum No. 3 (attached as Exhibit A to the June 20, 1991,
23 request for review). That document shows an increase in
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1 square footage of residences from 227,500 square feet to
2 298,800 square feet. However, the City's approved revision
3 at Condition 4 provides:

4 *The ground area coverage of the residences shall not be*
5 *greater than 217,000 square feet, which is less than the*
6 *prior approved plan, and the number of individual*
structures shall not exceed thirty-four (34), which is
equal to the prior approved plan.

7 Again, the figures cited by Evergreen are irrelevant to the issue
8 of whether the revision is within the scope and intent of the
9 original shoreline permit. It is the revision approval, not the
10 FEIS, which controls development.

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12 5. Retail. Retail structures are not addressed by the
13 revision on appeal.

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15 6. Relocation and combination of structures. Evergreen cites
16 Goodman v. City of Spokane, SHB No. 214 (1976) for the
17 proposition that relocation of a structure equates to a new
18 structure necessitating a new permit. We disagree. Goodman is
19 distinguishable in that it involved placement of a parking lot
20 where the original permit showed no parking lot anywhere on
21 the site. (Finding of Fact VII). Since Goodman, moreover, we
22 have decided cases which are on point with this one. In Geis
23 v. City of Seattle and Rock, SHB No. 77-10 (1977), we affirmed
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1 the relocation of a home by permit revision. In Citizens for
2 Sensible Residential Zoning v. City of Bremerton and Weeks,
3 SHB no. 79-35 (1980) we not only affirmed the relocation of a
4 condominium building by permit revision, but also the
5 combination of two other condominium buildings. Neither the
6 relocation nor combination of structures which are allowed by
7 an original permit, constitutes a "new structure." When done
8 in compliance with ground area coverage and the other
9 requirements of WAC 173-14-064, such development may proceed
10 by permit revision.

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12 We are aware that since the cases cited above Ecology has
13 amended WAC 173-14-064(2)(b) to limit the ground area coverage
14 of "each structure" as opposed to total lot coverage. This
15 change does not suggest to us that combining two or more
16 previously approved structures in a manner that has a positive
17 environmental impact would violate the rule. We decline to
18 adopt a strained construction of the rule as it would hinder
19 the very type of project mitigation which we believe the
20 revision rule is adopted to facilitate. Such a strained
21 construction would violate the spirit and intent of the rule.

1 C. With regard to additional separate structures under
2 WAC 173-14-064(2)(c), Evergreen states by affidavit that a restroom
3 building has been added to the project. It specifies that the
4 building is not on "Exhibit B" of Isley described as the original site
5 plan and dated January 14, 1986. Dominion's affidavit specifies that
6 the building is shown on "Exhibit F" of Isley which is described as
7 the "First Amendment" to the original site plan and which is dated
8 August 28, 1986. Dominion states by affidavit that Evergreen had
9 previously given its approval to this First Amendment. Evergreen does
10 not dispute this by affidavit.

11 D. No issue has been raised in this case relating to height, lot
12 coverage, setback or any other master program requirements except as
13 authorized by the original permit under WAC 173-14-064(2)(d).

14 E. No issue has been raised as to landscaping under
15 WAC 173-14-064(2)(e).

16 F. No issue has been raised as to change of use under
17 WAC 173-14-064(2)(f).

18 G. We see no substantial adverse environmental impact under
19 WAC 173-14-064(2)(g). To the contrary, the relocation of the hotel
20 away from the wetland area, the consolidation of parking structures
21 and movement of parking back from the water and other features of the
22 revision indicate a substantial improvement in environmental effect.
23 So, too, is there improvement in public access (affidavit of General
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1 Counsel for the Port of Anacortes). Evergreen does not dispute by
2 affidavit this improvement in public access.

3 There are no genuine issues of material fact on this issue. The
4 July 22, 1991, revision is within the scope and intent of the original
5 shoreline permit issued in 1987 for the Ship Harbor development.
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7 2. Notice. It is undisputed that the City neither published,
8 posted, mailed or otherwise gave notice of Dominion's application for
9 a permit revision. That type of notice is prescribed by
10 RCW 90.58.140(4) and WAC 173-14-070 for original shoreline
11 applications. In this case notice of that type would have been
12 required in 1984 at the time the Ship Harbor development was
13 proposed. Yet none of the foregoing applies to the revision now at
14 issue. There is no requirement of public notice prior to local
15 government action approving or disapproving a revision under
16 WAC 173-14-064(1). Condominium Builders, Inc. v. City of Seattle and
17 Lockhaven Marina, Inc., SHB No. 85-19 (1986); Brachvogel v. Mason
18 County, SHB No. 189 (1975), aff'd, Thurston County Civil Docket No.
19 53266 (1976). The rationale for this rule is sound in that public
20 notice and comment is widely solicited before issuance of a shoreline
21 permit. Revisions to a permit which are within its scope and intent
22 are then summarily approvable as part of the previously completed
23 permit process. Only when revisions to a shoreline permit exceed its
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1 scope and intent is there occasion to re-commence the cycle of
2 application, public notice comment and permit approval or denial.
3 Save Flounder Bay v. City of Anacortes, et. al., SHB No. 81-15 (1982)
4 and related cases cited by Evergreen are inapposite as applicable only
5 to initial issuance of a shoreline permit and not to its revision.
6 There was no requirement for prior public notice of Dominion's
7 revision application or approval thereof by the City.

8 Under WAC 173-14-064(4) one may ask local government to be
9 apprised of the outcome of any revision application. Condominium
10 Builders, supra, at 3. Such a request is made in response to the
11 original notice of a shoreline permit application under RCW
12 90.58.140(4) and WAC 173-14-070. Id. Dominion has filed the
13 affidavit of the City Shorelines Administrator that no one, including
14 Evergreen, has ever requested (in writing) notice from the City of any
15 action taken on these applications. Moreover, the affidavit of
16 Dominion's counsel submits Interrogatory No. 2 into this record which
17 is to the same effect as the shorelines administrator's affidavit.
18 Evergreen does not dispute by affidavit the absence of any request to
19 be apprised of the action on these applications. We are aware that
20 WAC 173-14-060(4) has been amended since Condominium Builders, supra,
21 to require cities to notify "parties of record" and deleting specific
22 reference to persons making request under WAC 173-14-070. However,
23 the rule provides no other way, and we can conceive of none, to become
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1 a "party of record" other than by making the type of request
2 contemplated by WAC 173-14-070. We reject Evergreen's contention that
3 persons commenting on the 1981 draft EIS had implicitly requested to
4 be notified of the City's permit or revision decisions. We hold
5 further that to become a "party of record" entitled to notice under
6 WAC 173-14-064(4) one must make an explicit request. Evergreen did
7 not make an explicit request, and was not a "party of record." It was
8 not entitled to receive notice of the revision after its approval by
9 the City under WAC 173-14-064(4).

10 Notwithstanding all of the above, Evergreen in fact was given
11 actual notice of the revision by the City. (Certified statements of
12 Evergreen's counsel.) That notice was adequate to inform Evergreen of
13 the City's action. Evergreen timely commenced this appeal and has
14 shown no prejudice with regard to this notice given by the City.

15 There is no genuine issue of material fact on this issue. The
16 notice of this revision was adequate.

17 3. Minimum Information on the Application. It is undisputed
18 that Dominion's revision application includes site plans without
19 building dimensions drawn upon the buildings. In this regard,
20 Evergreen cites WAC 173-14-110 adopted by Ecology to state the minimum
21 information required on a shoreline application. Like the
22 requirements of the notice rule, WAC 173-14-070, the application rule,
23 WAC 173-14-110, applies to initial shoreline applications and not
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1 revisions. Revisions are governed by WAC 173-14-064 which states:

2 When an applicant seeks to revise a permit, local
3 government shall request from the applicant detailed
4 plans and text describing the proposed changes in the
5 permit.

6 While we disagree that WAC 173-14-110 applies here, we would agree
7 with Evergreen's position that "dimensions and locations of proposed
8 structures" as required by -110 are an important consideration. We
9 read -064, above, as requiring the same. Yet Dominion's site plan as
10 approved by the City (attachment C to certified statement of
11 Evergreen's counsel) contains a scale which allows dimensions of
12 structures to be determined. Also, the site plan shows the location
13 of structures. The City's approval provides that the "exact location"
14 of buildings will be determined after a topographic survey. Condition
15 2. Yet it also provides that final building locations will
16 substantially comply with the site plan. Id. In this respect the
17 facts are distinguishable from those of SAVE v. Bothell, SHB Nos.
18 82-29, 82-36, 82-43 and 82-53 (1983), where there was only a verbal
19 description of a building envelope and no scale drawing showing the
20 location or uses of buildings. Dominion has provided a scale drawing
21 showing dimensions and locations of structures. It has met the
22 requirement of WAC 173-14-064 for "detailed plans."

23 There is no genuine issue of material fact on this issue. The
24 revision application contained the necessary information.
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1 4. Contingencies. The revision approved by the City contains
2 three provisions which Evergreen cites as unfulfilled contingencies:
3 A) a topographic survey (Condition 2), B) a traffic mitigation plan
4 (Condition 7), and C) a geotechnical engineering study (Condition 11).

5 A. Topographic Survey. The site diagrams in shoreline permit
6 or revision matters must provide sufficient detail for the
7 public, local government and the Board to determine
8 consistency of the proposal with the shoreline law. See
9 SAVE v. Bothell, SHB Nos. 82-29, 82-36, 82-43 and 82-53
10 (1983). Yet further work by both engineers and architects
11 may often be necessary before detailed building plans can
12 be devised. The topographic survey of this permit is in
13 the latter category. Nothing about it suggests that the
14 site diagram forming the basis of this revision will be
15 materially altered. As we concluded earlier, Condition 2
16 requires that building locations "substantially comply"
17 with the site diagram. This will prevent material
18 departure from the plan as approved. Such a contingency
19 does not impair the City's revision approval.

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21 B. Traffic mitigation plan. The traffic mitigation plan in
22 the revision is drawn directly from the original shoreline
23 permit issued pursuant to the Settlement Agreement.
24 Evergreen cannot in this revision appeal, step behind the
25 Settlement Agreement to challenge that requirement.

1 C. Geotechnical engineering study. Evergreen points out that
2 this revision locates the hotel on the slope of an old
3 landslide. Under the Settlement Agreement, Evergreen
4 previously agreed to construction at that location.
5 Compare Exhibit 4 showing the original site plan and
6 Exhibit 6 showing the revised site plan, both attached to
7 Evergreen's affidavit. Moreover, soil sampling in 1984 and
8 engineering reconnaissance in 1991 have led to the following
9 conclusion from Dominion's engineering consultant (Exhibit
10 1 to affidavit of General Counsel for the Port of
11 Anacortes):

12 *It is our opinion that the hotel could be*
13 *constructed at its presently planned*
14 *location, provided, that the structure is*
15 *designed and constructed with appropriate*
16 *consideration of slope stability. Various*
17 *design and construction techniques could*
18 *be incorporated into the project to*
19 *significantly improve the existing slope*
20 *stability and to maintain a long term*
21 *factor of safety with respect to slope*
22 *stability that is consistent with standard*
23 *engineering practice for a structure of*
24 *this size and significance.*

25 Evergreen does not dispute this conclusion. Rather, it asserts that
26 the remaining geotechnical study constitutes a flaw in the revision
27 approval. We disagree. It is true that an unfulfilled contingency
can lead to reversal of shoreline approval. Department of Ecology v.
City of Tacoma and Barden, SHB Nos. 83-42, 84-27, and 84-33 (1985).

1 We reversed the shoreline approval in Barden because the very
2 feasibility of the proposal was contingent on future study. Here, by
3 contrast, geotechnical study has already shown the feasibility of
4 locating the hotel as proposed. Only the choice of building technique
5 remains contingent on future study. The requirement of a geotechnical
6 engineering study on the facts of this case is appropriate.

7 There is no genuine issue of material fact on this issue. The
8 unfulfilled contingencies of this revision are proper and appropriate.

9 5. State Environmental Policy Act. A "Notice of Action" was
10 published by the City under RCW 43.21C.080 of the State Environmental
11 Policy Act (SEPA). This was done in connection with the original
12 shoreline permit for Ship Harbor issued in 1987. (Exhibit E to
13 affidavit of Dominion's counsel). The opportunity to challenge SEPA
14 compliance had by then been waived by Evergreen which, instead,
15 entered the Settlement Agreement. Under RCW 43.21C.080, a SEPA
16 challenge cannot be raised on this revision appeal because:

17 . . . any subsequent governmental action on
18 the proposal for which notice has been given as
19 provided in subsection (1) of this section shall
20 not be set aside, enjoined, reviewed or
21 otherwise challenged on grounds of noncompliance
22 with the provisions of RCW 43.21C.030(2)(a)
23 through (h) unless there has been a substantial
24 change in the proposal between the time of the
25 first governmental action and the subsequent
26 governmental action. . . RCW 43.21C.080(2)(a)
27 (Emphasis added.)

1 In this case the "first governmental action" was issuance of the Ship
2 Harbor shoreline permit in 1987. The "subsequent governmental action"
3 is the revision now on appeal. For the same reasons that the revision
4 is within the scope and intent of the original shoreline permit, we
5 now conclude that there has been no "substantial change" in the
6 proposal under RCW 43.21.080(2)(a) of SEPA, above.

7 There is no genuine issue of material fact on this issue.
8 Evergreen is barred by RCW 43.21C.080 from challenging this revision
9 for SEPA compliance.

10 6. Settlement Agreement as Precluding Appeal. Dominion urges
11 that the 1986 Settlement Agreement precludes this appeal. We agree in
12 part. Paragraph 25 of the Settlement Agreement provides:

13 25. *EI and the individual members of EI signing*
14 *hereafter agree not to oppose, appeal or otherwise*
15 *interfere with whether directly or indirectly, any*
16 *other permit applications required for said project*
17 *so long as said applications are consistent with this*
agreement, its exhibits and the Shoreline Substantial
Development permit to be based hereon. (Emphasis
added.)

18 The consistency of this revision with the original permit and
19 underlying Settlement Agreement has been established for the same
20 reasons that the revision lies within the "scope and intent" of the
21 original permit under WAC 173-14-064. We construe both the Settlement
22 Agreement and WAC 173-14-064 to allow a limited appeal from this
23 revision where the only substantive issue is whether the revision is
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1 within the scope and intent of the original permit. See WAC
2 173-14-064(7). We have concluded that it is. We have also reviewed
3 certain procedural claims having to do with notice, contents of the
4 application, contingencies, and SEPA. By its Request for Review,
5 Evergreen invites review of the revision for substantive compliance
6 with the policy of the shoreline management act (SMA) and specific
7 standards within the shoreline master program. Such review, however,
8 is barred by our conclusion that the revision represents no
9 "substantial change" from and is within the "scope and intent" of the
10 original permit. Section 25 of the Settlement Agreement as well as
11 WAC 173-14-064(1) and (7) set forth earlier in this opinion impart to
12 this revision, by law, the propriety determined when the original
13 permit was issued.

14 There is no genuine issue of material fact on this issue. Both
15 the Settlement Agreement and WAC 173-14-064(1) and (7) bar review for
16 compliance with the SMA and master program on appeal from a permit
17 revision.

18 7. Trial Within 45 Days. Dominion contends that RCW 43.17.065,
19 as amended by SHB 1341 (Section 28, Chapter 314, Laws of 1991)
20 requires that this matter come to trial in 45 days, displacing other
21 cases already set. We find no merit in that contention. The 1991
22 amendment applies when:

23 . . . power is vested in a department to
24 issue permits, licenses, certifications,
25 contracts, grants or otherwise authorize
action. . . . RCW 43.17.065, as amended

1 First, the term, "department," above should be read to have the same
2 meaning as it does elsewhere in that chapter. At RCW 43.17.010
3 various executive departments are enumerated. This Board is not
4 listed. Second, we neither "issue permits, licenses, certifications,
5 contracts, grants or otherwise authorize action." Those functions are
6 granted by the SMA to cities and counties. We review such actions
7 when an appeal is filed. Third, the language of RCW 43.17.065 cited
8 by Dominion states:

9 . . . shall . . . respond to any completed
10 application within 45 days of its receipt.

11 While Dominion construes this to mean commencing a trial, the term
12 "respond" more properly suggests that a final decision be reached in
13 that time. Such a requirement conflicts with the Administrative
14 Procedure Act (APA) which governs quasi-judicial tribunals such as
15 this Board. At RCW 34.05.461(8) the APA allows ninety (90) days from
16 completion of the hearing (trial) to issuance of the final order. The
17 cited provisions of RCW 43.17.065 cannot implicitly supersede the
18 APA. RCW 34.05.020. Nor do we believe that RCW 43.17.065 was
19 intended to supersede the APA.

20 Cases before this Board, will be advanced as rapidly as the
21 interests of justice allow. The provisions of RCW 43.17.065 do not
22 require either trial or decision to be reached in 45 days.
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V. SUMMARY

There is no genuine issue as to any material fact. Dominion is entitled to judgment as a matter of law that a) the revision is within the scope and intent of the original shoreline permit b) notice was adequate, c) the application contained necessary information d) contingencies within the approval were appropriate e) SEPA challenge is barred and f) the 1986 Settlement Agreement and WAC 173-14-064 bar review, on a revision appeal, for compliance with the SMA and master program.

Dominion has shown entitlement to judgment on each issue of the Request for Review. Evergreen's motion for summary judgment should be denied. Dominion's Motion to Dismiss should be granted.

The history of this case has involved zealous disputation between the parties while at the same time it has produced exemplary agreement. In no sense can either side fairly deny the positive contribution of the other side in the evolution of this project. This decision is issued with the admonition that while litigation can break an impasse, so, too, can mutual cooperation.

ORDER

1. The appellant's Motion for Summary Judgment is denied.
2. The respondent's Motion for Dismissal is granted.

DONE at Lacey, WA, this 14th day of February, 1992.

SHORELINES HEARINGS BOARD

Harold S. Zimmerman
HAROLD S. ZIMMERMAN, Chairman

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MARK O. ERICKSON, Member

William A. Harrison
WILLIAM A. HARRISON
Administrative Appeals Judge

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ORDER OF DISMISSAL
SHB NO. 91-39

(24)